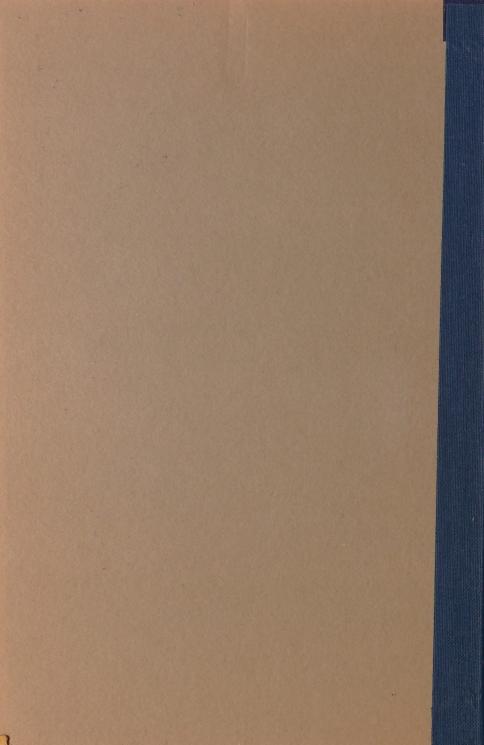
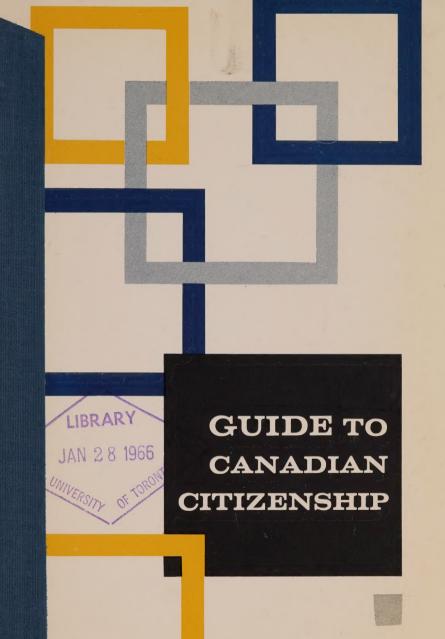


Can. Canadian citizenship branch.

Guide to Canadian citizenship. 1965.







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# GUIDE TO CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

OTTAWA 1965

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C. QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY OTTAWA, 1965

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# Preface

This booklet has been specially prepared for those who have filed, or who will soon file, their applications to become citizens of Canada.

If you are one of these persons, you may find this booklet helpful in preparing yourself for the examination by the Court, which is an important step in the citizenship procedure. In the booklet you will find information on the history, geography and natural resources of Canada, the Canadian people and how they live, the system of government, and the rights and responsibilities of a citizen.

When your examination takes place the Judge may ask you questions on any of these subjects as a means of testing your knowledge of Canada and Canadian institutions.

At the end of each section of the booklet you will find a number of questions. The answers to many of these questions will be found in the text of the booklet. Other answers you may discover by reading or asking your friends.

It is most important for you to understand that the questions in this booklet are not necessarily the ones that will be used by the Judge in your Court examination. They are simply to test your knowledge of what you have read.

When you have studied this booklet carefully you will have learned many important facts about Canada that should help you in your examination.

Good luck!

# Acknowledgments

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We are also indebted to the following for making photographs available to us: Public Archives of Canada (p. 12), Holland-America Line (p. 20), Théâtre du Nouveau Monde (p. 23), CBC (p. 25), Malak (p. 27, 55, 59, 61), Department of National Health and Welfare (p. 31), Air Canada (p. 45), Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission (p. 56), Ottawa Police Force (p. 79), and the Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto (p. 85). All other photographs were supplied by the National Film Board of Canada.

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# The Story of Canada

## Discovery

The first Europeans to discover North America were probably the Scandinavians. Leif Ericsson sailed from Iceland in about the year 1000. On his return home he told of a strange new land far to the west which he called Vinland. The Scandinavians probably made other voyages to North America but they did not leave any permanent settlement.

Several centuries passed before other European explorers are known to have visited the North American continent. Encouraged by kings and rich merchants in Europe, they were searching for a direct sea route to Asia. Silks, spices and other luxuries had begun to reach Europe from the Orient and it was hoped that trade with the East might be greatly increased.

John Cabot. John Cabot, like Christopher Columbus, believed that the shortest route to the Far East would be found by sailing west. Cabot was a sailor from Genoa and Venice who was employed by Henry VII of England. In 1497, five years after Columbus reached the West Indies, Cabot sailed from Bristol, England. His voyage took him to the east coast of Canada. On his return to England, he reported that the seas off the new land were "covered with fishes". There is little doubt that he had discovered the rich fishing grounds off the coast of Newfoundland.

In the early years of the sixteenth century English, French and Portuguese fishermen sailed from Europe to the fishing grounds

in large numbers. These fishermen were only interested in the value of their catch and did nothing to claim or explore the coast.

Jacques Cartier. In 1534 Jacques Cartier, a French sailor, made the first of three voyages to Canada. From his reports Europeans got their first real information about Canada. Cartier sailed into the St. Lawrence River and went as far west as the Indian village of Hochelaga, where the city of Montreal now stands. It is said that he was the first European to use the name "Canada" in describing this new land. The word may have come from an Indian word "kanata" which means a collection of huts.

#### New France

Samuel de Champlain. In the next one hundred years the French and British established colonies in the new world. The first French attempts to settle in Canada were not successful, mainly because of the severe climate and the great distance from the homeland. It was not until 1608 when Samuel de Champlain



Jacques Cartier at Gaspé on the Gulf of St. Lawrence 1534



Jean Talon, first Intendant of New France, took keen interest in welfare of settlers

set up a small community at Quebec that the settlement of Canada really began. Champlain, who was a great explorer as well, has been called the "Father of New France", New France being the name of French Canada in early days.

Early Settlement. The French settled mainly along the St. Lawrence River and in Acadia, a region which is now included in the Maritime provinces. In spite of great hardships and difficulties they cleared the land and established farms. In the towns and villages, which gradually grew up in the wilderness, a strong community life developed around the parish church. Artisans, merchants and small manufacturers met local needs but the majority of people were engaged in farming or the fur trade.

Fur Trade. Soon after their arrival in Canada the French began trading with the Indians. This trade in furs took the French along the lakes and rivers far to the west and south where many



Fur traders travelling in brigade of canoes

trading posts were built. French explorers and missionaries also made their way deep into the continent.

The British, who had established their settlements to the south along the Atlantic coast, also began to trade with the Indians and to build posts by the rivers and lakes to the west. It was not long before the French and English traders were fighting over the fur trade and control of the vast region of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi valley. This conflict was one aspect of the long struggle in Europe between France and Britain.

Rivalry between French and British Colonies. As early as 1613 the British had destroyed the French settlement at Port Royal, now Annapolis Royal, in Nova Scotia. In 1629 Champlain surrendered Quebec to the British force. However both Port Royal

and Quebec were returned to the French in 1632 when Britain and France made peace in Europe.

In 1689 a new series of wars between Britain and France began. This meant that the struggle between the colonies in North America continued. At the same time violent wars broke out among the Indian tribes who had allied themselves with either the French or British settlers. Communities were often attacked by hostile Indians and the inhabitants killed, or carried off as captives.

Finally, in 1759, during the Seven Years' War in Europe, the British under General Wolfe captured Quebec from the French under General Montcalm. By the Treaty of Paris, which ended the war in 1763, the French colonies passed to the British.

At that time there were about 70,000 people in Canada of whom about 60,000 were French. The others were British settlers who had come to Nova Scotia after the French had been sent from that colony in 1755. After the Treaty of Paris a small group of British businessmen came to Montreal. Except for this group, the population of Quebec was entirely French.

# Struggle for Self-Government

When the colonies belonged to France, they were ruled by governors who were sent out from France. The British, in the early years after they took over the colonies, followed the same plan and sent governors out from Britain. In Nova Scotia the British settlers had been given a share in government through an elected assembly in 1758. The French and the few British inhabitants of Montreal and Quebec, however, were not given this right until later.

Quebec Act 1774. The strong position of the French settlers and their desire to keep their own religion, language and way of living led to the passage of the Quebec Act in 1774. Under this Act of the British Parliament, the French were given the right

to have their religion and language. French civil law was to be used but only English criminal law was permitted.

The French inhabitants were generally pleased with the Quebec Act because it recognized their right to their own language and religion. The British settlers were not pleased with it because they wanted a share in government through an elected assembly.

United Empire Loyalists. When the American Revolution took place, 1775-1781, the French did not join the other colonies in their fight to be free of British rule. Some of the settlers living in the American colonies also remained loyal to Britain. Rather than stay in the new United States, they came to Canada. They were known as United Empire Loyalists. Among the Loyalists



United Empire Loyalists migrate to Canada

were people of German, Dutch and other origins as well as British. A great many came to what is now New Brunswick and the other Maritime provinces. Others settled along the St. Lawrence River and the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie.

The coming of the Loyalists brought many changes for the French settlers. In a colony which had been mainly French for over a century there was now a large British population. These new British inhabitants had been used to an elected assembly in the American colonies and a share in the government. They wanted the same thing in Canada.

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It was hoped that the Constitutional Act would overcome all of the differences between the French and British inhabitants and that there would now be peace in the colony.

Rebellion. However, in a short time trouble started. The power of the governors and councils was much greater than that of the legislative assemblies in which the elected representatives of the people sat. This caused dissatisfaction. During the War of 1812-1814 between Canada and the United States the people of Upper and Lower Canada—both French and British—fought together to keep Canada independent of the United States. But after 1814, political discontent increased considerably.

The leader of the Reform Party in the Assembly of Upper Canada was William Lyon Mackenzie. In the Lower Canada

Assembly Louis-Joseph Papineau was the leader of a radical group called the *patriotes*. Under these two men rebellion broke out in both provinces in 1837. It was quickly put down but the British government now knew that something was seriously wrong in the provinces. They sent Lord Durham to Canada to see what had to be done.

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For some time each new governor tried to keep the powers of government in his own hands. But in 1849, when Lord Elgin was Governor, it was recognized that any legislative program must have the support of the elected legislative assembly if it was to be accepted by the people.

## Confederation

The idea of forming a federation of the provinces had been suggested in the late 1840's. It was not until 1858, however, that it was proposed in the legislative assembly.

Need for Federation. There were many reasons behind this desire for union. The American Civil War which began in 1861 caused unfriendly relations between the United States and Britain. There was a strong feeling in Canada that war might come and that troops from the United States might invade the country. Communications between the province of Canada and the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island were poor. This meant that the provinces could not help each other

quickly in time of need. British Columbia, which had become a province in 1858 after gold was discovered there, lay 3,000 miles away on the Pacific coast. There was a great need for better means of communication between the various parts of the country.

Another cause for concern was the economic position of the provinces. Britain had adopted free trade and therefore Canada no longer had a special position in the British market.

The deciding factor in bringing about union was the break-down of party government. No government was able to retain the support of a majority of the members of the assembly. The union of the two provinces of Upper and Lower Canada had resulted in



many difficulties. The Act of 1840 had given the two divisions of the united province of Canada the same number of representatives in the assembly, regardless of population. This was bound to cause friction. By 1864 provincial leaders were convinced that the only solution to these problems was the union of all the provinces in the form of a federation.

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The British North America Act came into force on July 1, 1867 and Canadians now celebrate that day each year as a national holiday.

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Fathers of Confederation: delegates from the provinces meet at Quebec to discuss union, October 1864

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original provinces under the name of Canada, French and English were recognized as official languages, as they had already been for a century. This means that French and English are in a different position from the many other languages that are used in Canada.

# Ethnic Diversity

Apart from the French and British, the largest group in Canada are the Germans. Their first settlement at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, goes back to 1750. Another large group are the Ukrainians who were pioneers in western Canada. Many Dutch and Italians have come to Canada since the Second World War and they now form important elements in the Canadian population.

Scandinavians—Icelanders, Norwegians, Swedes and Danes—have been attracted mainly to the Prairie provinces and British Columbia, although many are living in other parts of the country. Many early Polish immigrants settled in the Canadian West as farmers. Nowadays a considerable number are working in business and industry in the cities and towns of Ontario and other provinces. Jewish people also tend to live in urban communities, as do the Hungarians. Many members of these groups as well as of other groups have at various periods sought freedom from oppression by coming to Canada.

A great many other smaller groups help to make up the population of Canada. These include people from Slavic and Baltic countries, from the Middle East and the Far East, particularly China and Japan. Each group is making its own contribution to our national life.

## Religion

Canadians place great value on religious freedom. There is no state church in Canada. Every person is free to attend the church of his choice and to worship as he sees fit. The main religious denominations are Anglican, Baptist, Greek Catholic and Greek Orthodox, Jewish, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and United Church.

Connected with most churches are organizations which are concerned with welfare work, recreation and social activities. Some are large national organizations with branches in the local churches across Canada. Most church organizations play an active part in the life of the community.

## Cultural Expansion

In the last twenty or thirty years, and particularly since the war, there has been a strong cultural upsurge in Canada. Theatre, opera, music, ballet, painting and other arts are flourishing as they have never done before. The federal and provincial governments and many voluntary organizations have helped encourage this cultural expansion. Through the Canada Council the federal government gives financial aid to individuals and organizations in virtually all cultural fields. In addition, it makes grants to universities and other institutions of higher learning.

Theatre. What are some of the highlights of the arts in Canada today? Many people, both from Canada and other countries, enjoy the annual festivals of the theatre, music and other arts which are held during the summer months in Montreal, Stratford and Vancouver. The Stratford theatre, with its specially designed open stage, is considered to be one of the most original in North America. The Shakespearean plays which are presented there each season are greeted with enthusiasm by both critics and the public.

The theatre in French Canada is represented by several enterprising companies. One of the leading companies is *Le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde* of Montreal. It has produced plays by Molière, as well as other classical and modern authors with great success both in Canada and on international tours to Paris and elsewhere.

A promising step towards the creation of a distinctively Canadian theatre came in 1960 when the National Theatre School was opened. Students from all across Canada, both French- and



Le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde in a scene from a play by Molière

English-speaking, work and study together at the permanent home of the school in Montreal and at Stratford during the weeks when the Festival is in progress.

Music and Ballet. Many Canadian cities have their own orchestra or chamber music groups. A recent venture is the National Youth Orchestra which is made up of young musicians from all parts of the country. Music by Canadian composers is being performed more and more frequently.

Opera has increased in popularity since the war, partly owing to contributions made by experienced directors and singers who immigrated to Canada. Out of the Opera Festival Association of Toronto has grown the fully professional Canadian Opera Company.

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet is the oldest of the three companies which are in the forefront of ballet in Canada today. The other two

are the National Ballet of Canada and Les Grands Ballets canadiens. All three were founded by women who came to Canada from other countries and who have given an original stamp to their companies. At the National Ballet School in Toronto, promising young people study ballet and academic subjects.

Visual Arts. The Canadian tradition in the visual arts—painting, sculpture, architecture and others—goes back three centuries to the very beautiful work of the Quebec woodcarvers. Today more Canadians than ever before are looking at, talking about, selling and buying works of art. Much of modern Canadian painting is in the abstract or international style. Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver are perhaps the main centres of the Canadian art world but very interesting work is also being done in such places as Regina, Winnipeg, Quebec and various parts of the Maritimes.

The National Gallery of Canada at Ottawa and other galleries have played an important part in stimulating an interest in art. Their programs include arranging exhibitions of paintings to circulate among smaller communities throughout the country.

Writing. Writing in Canada, like the theatre, is divided into two main traditions—English and French—with occasional translations from one language to the other. Themes based on the vastness and loneliness of Canada, its ethnic and cultural diversity, and its regional differences are constantly recurring in fiction and poetry. Searching into their past or examining the conditions of their present life, Canadians are writing an increasing number of histories, biographies and other works of non-fiction.

## Radio, Television and Films

Public and Private Stations. Public and private broadcasting stations exist side by side in Canada and co-operate to provide a national program service. Both are regulated and supervised by the Board of Broadcast Governors. This body is responsible directly to Parliament. One of its chief concerns is to maintain a

national broadcasting service of high standard which is basically Canadian in content and character.

The publicly-owned Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is financed through annual grants from Parliament and through revenues from commercial operations. The CBC is responsible to the Canadian people through Parliament.

Private radio and television stations are operated in a great many communities. Some are affiliated with the CBC and help distribute national programs over the CBC networks. Other private television stations are linked in a network of their own.

CBC. The CBC operates two distinct broadcasting services—one in English and one in French. The English service includes a national radio and a national television network. The latter is the longest in the world. The French service includes a radio and a television network.

Television provides many opportunities for Canadian talent



The CBC also operates an international service which broadcasts news reports, commentaries, talks and other types of programs to listeners in other lands telling them about life in Canada.

Radio and television have contributed a great deal over the years to Canadian drama and music and have helped to give actors, musicians and other performers an opportunity to express themselves and to become known to the public. In a vast, thinly populated country like Canada radio and television represent a force for unity and a means whereby one region of the country may come to know and understand another region separated by many hundreds of miles.

Films. Films in Canada are made both by private firms and by government agencies including the National Film Board and the CBC. The great increase in film production over the last few years is due, at least in part, to the growing number of television stations. In addition, hundreds of informational films are made for industry, government, schools and other groups.

The National Film Board was established by the federal government to produce and distribute national documentary films. Its function is to interpret Canada to Canadians and to the people of other nations in an interesting and factual manner. National Film Board productions, in both French and English, are shown throughout the world in commercial theatres, on television whereever it is in operation and to community audiences at home and abroad. The excellence of its work in the documentary field is indicated by the number of international awards it has won.

#### Education

In Canada's federal system of government, education is under the control of the provinces. There is therefore no uniform sysstem of education throughout the country. However, certain regulations are common to all the provinces.



Education is the key to the future of Canada

School attendance is compulsory for all children, generally in the age group seven to fifteen years. The public school system normally provides twelve or thirteen years of schooling depending on the province. There are three levels of education: (1) the elementary level, in which there are about eight years of schooling; (2) the secondary level which provides four or five years of schooling; and (3) the college or university level. Free schooling is provided for children at the elementary and secondary levels.

Elementary and Secondary Schools. In general, elementary and secondary schools are non-denominational. However, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta have made provision for large Roman Catholic minorities by establishing separate schools, generally at the elementary level, for children of this faith. In Quebec there

is a dual system of education comprising Roman Catholic and Protestant sections. Many schools in Newfoundland are operated by the various churches but there is one course of study followed by all the schools.

As Canada becomes more and more industrialized there is an increasing need for men and women with specialized technical skills. This has led to the opening of many new trade and technical institutions and the expansion of existing ones. A greatly increased number of young Canadians have entered these schools in recent years. Although vocational and technical education remains basically a provincial responsibility, the federal government shares certain costs.

Universities and Colleges. Universities and colleges are situated in all the provinces. Many of the universities are controlled by the provinces, others are under religious or independent control. Small colleges, which do not grant degrees in their own right, are more numerous than universities. Most universities and colleges are financed by grants from federal and provincial governments, by private endowments and students' fees. Fellowships, scholarships, bursaries and loan funds are available to students with good academic records.

Advanced study and research leading to postgraduate degrees may be undertaken in many universities. One of the oldest universities in Canada is Laval at Quebec City which traces its origin back to the *Séminaire de Québec*, a classical college, founded in 1663.

Certain universities have become associated with outstanding research in particular fields. For example, nuclear research and geophysics are associated with McGill, Queen's, McMaster and Saskatchewan; medical research with such institutions as the Connaught Laboratories in Toronto and the Montreal Neurological Institute; agricultural research with the western universities; and fisheries research with British Columbia. St. Francis Xavier University at Antigonish, Nova Scotia, is known far beyond the bor-

ders of Canada for its pioneering work in adult education and cooperatives.

Adult Education. Adult education has been growing steadily in the last decade. Universities and colleges, government departments and agencies like the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board, labour unions, co-operatives, school boards, public libraries, employers and a great many voluntary organizations provide educational opportunities for adults. These may take the form of public lectures, film showings, exhibits and musical and dramatic performances as well as classes and courses. Of particular interest to newcomers are the language and citizenship classes which are held in most large centres throughout

Entrance to the Séminaire de Québec



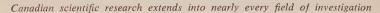
Canada. They afford an opportunity to learn the languages of Canada and also something about its history and development.

In rural Canada educational projects include provincial and university extension services, short courses in agriculture or home economics, community schools to which people may come for short periods of study and recreation, and farm broadcasts and telecasts.

#### Research

Universities and other institutions receive direct aid for scientific and medical research from the federal government in the form of bursaries, fellowships and grants-in-aid. Provincial and local governments as well as private industry also assist research. In addition to this financial support, government and industry undertake important research of their own.

The most varied program of scientific and industrial research in Canada is carried out by the National Research Council, an agency of the federal government. The Defence Research Board is concerned mainly with research to meet the needs of the armed forces. Other federal agencies and departments are also very active in various fields of research.







Children are immunized against infectious diseases at free public health clinics

#### Social Welfare

Health and welfare services have received increasing attention in Canada in the post-war years. Federal, provincial and municipal governments and voluntary organizations all play their part in meeting the main health and welfare needs of the people.

Health Services. The provincial governments have the main responsibility for health services. Authority over some health matters is given to the municipalities by the provincial governments. The federal government is concerned with health matters of a national character and provides important financial assistance to provincial health and hospital services. All levels of government are aided and supported by voluntary agencies working in different health fields.

Hospital care is provided through federal-provincial hospital insurance plans. Public health programs include the control of communicable disease, child and maternal health, health education, and nutrition services. Clinics are provided for such services as pre-natal care of women, and the immunization of children against diphtheria, polio and other diseases.

Welfare Services. Responsibility for social welfare is shared by all levels of government.

Families with young children, aged persons, needy mothers and disabled and blind persons receive assistance.

Unemployment Insurance and the National Employment Service provide assistance to people looking for jobs. People who suffer an accident in the course of their employment receive compensation. Workers are protected in their employment by minimum wage laws. They are also protected by laws requiring women to be paid at the same rate as men when they do the same or comparable work, and by laws prohibiting discrimination in hiring and employment on grounds of race, ethnic origin, colour or religion.

# Voluntary Organizations and Government Services

Voluntary organizations, in great number and variety, are a feature of life in Canada. A voluntary organization is a group of people who have banded themselves together of their own free will to undertake a common purpose. Some examples of voluntary organizations are the Red Cross Society, labour unions, farm organizations and co-operatives.

How do voluntary societies get the money to carry on their work? Some are financed by membership fees alone. Others, in addition to membership fees, are supported by funds contributed by the general public; while still others receive grants from the municipal, provincial or federal governments, in addition to private contributions. In most communities many of the welfare societies combine to hold fund-raising campaigns once a year. These campaigns, in which the money is shared among the societies taking part, are called United Appeals, Red Feather campaigns or Community Chests.

In regard to government services, these take the form of both regulations and assistance. Some examples of regulations are food and drug standards, the inspecting and grading of farm products, minimum wage laws and laws prohibiting discrimination in employment. Government assistance includes welfare services such as Family Allowances, Old Age Security, Allowances to Blind and Disabled Persons and farm loans. In these and many other ways government services benefit all Canadians.

How are government services related to those provided by voluntary organizations? In general, voluntary effort complements government services. The two are partners in many fields. For example, the Canadian Welfare Council, a voluntary organization whose aim is to promote social welfare, acts as a link between public and private agencies. In the field of labour, the Canadian Labour Congress supplements the work of the government in its education program to combat prejudice and discrimination.

Voluntary action represents initiative and responsibility on the part of the individual citizen. A feeling of personal responsibility for our community and our country is at the heart of democracy. That is why voluntary organizations are closely related to the democratic way of life in Canada.

#### Labour Unions

In most large Canadian industries the employees are organized into trade unions. Membership is voluntary but the right of workers to belong to trade unions is protected by law.

Matters relating to trade unions come under provincial law except in the case of those industries which extend beyond the borders of the province. The railways, for example, are subject to federal law. Labour laws, whether provincial or federal, have to do only with relations between labour and management. They do not interfere with the freedom of the unions to manage their own affairs.

The main purpose of labour unions in Canada is to improve the wages and working conditions of their members through arranging collective agreements with employers. Some unions also provide other services such as educational and recreational programs.

## Sports and Outdoors

Canadians are very fond of the natural beauty of their vast countryside. They are used to the sense of wide open space where there is plenty of room for expansion and where they may spend a holiday close to nature on the wooded shores of a lake or by the seaside. Summer cottages, camping and motor trips are very popular with many Canadians. Some enjoy a skiing holiday in the winter. Skiing, skating and curling are among the favourite winter sports. In summer many people enjoy swimming, boating, tennis and golf.

A game which is very popular, particularly during the winter months, is indoor bowling. Dancing is, of course, enjoyed at all times of the year. Hockey, football and baseball matches attract great crowds of people.

Camping and picnics are favourite Canadian summer pastimes



National and provincial parks which are found in every province offer fine opportunities for sports or simply for driving or hiking through beautiful scenery. The many thousands of tourists who come to Canada each year as well as Canadians themselves enjoy the roads, beaches, picnic tables and other services provided by the federal and provincial governments in these parks.

## Questions

- 1. What is the population of Canada?
- 2. What are the two main language groups?
- 3. Which groups are descended from the original native population?
- 4. In addition to those already mentioned, name two other cultural or national groups that have come to Canada in large numbers.
- 5. What is meant by religious freedom in Canada?
- 6. "Since the war, there has been a strong cultural upsurge in Canada."

Can you mention two important forms of cultural activity in Canada?

- 7. What are some features of radio and television broadcasting in Canada?
- 8. (a) Who is responsible for education in Canada?
  - (b) How is it paid for?
- 9. Name two ways in which workers are protected by Canadian legislation?
- 10. (a) What is the difference between a government service and a voluntary organization?
  - (b) In which category does a labour union belong?

## The Land

Canada is the second largest country in the world. Only the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has a greater area. Canada covers close to 4,000,000 square miles which means that it is about the same size as Europe including European Russia. Canada occupies the northern half of the North American continent with the exception of Alaska and Greenland.

#### **Boundaries**

The boundaries of Canada are the United States on the south, the Pacific Ocean and Alaska on the west, the Arctic Ocean on the north and the Atlantic Ocean on the east. Canada is about 4,000 miles wide from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. The distance from the most southerly part of Canada to the northernmost point in the Arctic Islands is almost 3,000 miles.

Almost half the land area of Canada is forest. Less than 8 per cent is occupied farm land. Much of the rest consists of rock, barren land in the north called tundra, urban land and land used for roads.

## Geographical Regions

In a country as large as Canada there are great differences in physical features, soil and climate from one region to another. The country may be divided into six main geographical regions: Atlantic, St. Lawrence lowlands, Canadian Shield, Central Plain, Mountain Region and Arctic Islands.

Atlantic Region. This region is made up of the Atlantic provinces—Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick—and most of the province of Quebec that lies south of the St. Lawrence River. The four Atlantic provinces are almost surrounded by the sea. Except for the gently rolling lowlands of Prince Edward Island, most of the region is hilly with a rocky coastline. Some of the steep hills in Gaspé and in Newfoundland might even be called mountains. The river valleys are mostly fer-

Simplified map of the geographical regions of Canada



tile and the hills covered with trees. Fishing, forestry, farming and mining are the main industries.

St. Lawrence Region. The St. Lawrence region includes those parts of Quebec and Ontario which lie in the valley of the St. Lawrence River and that part of Ontario lying between Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron. The area is mostly a large flat plain with rich soil. More than half of Canada's people live in this region of fertile fields and orchards and prosperous industrial and commercial centres.

Canadian Shield. The Canadian Shield, which takes in about one half of the total area of Canada, is an immense horseshoeshaped area with Hudson and James Bays at about the centre. The region is very rocky and hilly although only a few of the hills are higher than two thousand feet. Many rivers and thousands of lakes and small streams cover the region.



Atlantic region: East coast fishing village



Canadian Shield: region of rivers, lakes, trees and rocks, with great mineral wealth

Because of the rocky ground the Canadian Shield contains very little good farm land. The mineral resources, however, are of great variety and enormous value. The northern part of the Shield lies beyond the limit of tree growth and the ground is permanently frozen except for a thin surface layer that thaws each summer.

Central Plain. The interior plains are part of a great flat area which covers the central part of the continent from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean. It extends west to the Rocky Mountains and east to the Canadian Shield. The plains are covered to a great depth with rich soil which provides Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta with mile upon mile of excellent farm land. It is here that a considerable part of the world's wheat supply is grown.

Mountain Region. The Rocky Mountains and other mountain ranges lie along the West coast of Canada. The province of British



Central plain: grain elevators on the prairies

Columbia is included in this region which is the most rugged in the country. Many of the mountains reach 10,000 feet while some of the peaks are over 13,000 feet high. The rocks contain rich mineral deposits and the swift mountain rivers are ideal for the development of hydro-electric power. In the valleys are some of the finest fruit growing districts in Canada.

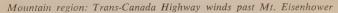
Arctic Islands. The Arctic Islands lie in the Arctic Ocean off the mainland in a great triangle with its point at Ellesmere Island. Some of the islands in the group are of great size. Baffin Island, for example, is almost one half the size of the province of Ontario. Some of the islands have mountain ranges with peaks over ten thousand feet high. Snow and ice cover this area for a large part of the year.

#### Lakes and Rivers

As one might expect in a country as vast as Canada, there are a great many lakes and rivers. In fact, a large proportion of the world's fresh water is in Canada.

St. Lawrence River and Seaway. The St. Lawrence River and five Great Lakes—Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie and Ontario—form the most important river system in the country. A joint project undertaken by Canada and the United States has resulted in the St. Lawrence Seaway. This waterway permits ocean-going ships to sail up the river and through the Great Lakes for over two thousand miles to the head of Lake Superior. Millions of tons of wheat, iron ore, pulpwood and mixed cargo are transported over the Seaway each year.

The St. Lawrence itself, one of the world's great rivers, is the historic gateway to the interior of the continent and a very important avenue of trade. The Ottawa River, which flows into the St. Lawrence at Montreal, is its longest tributary.





Rivers of the West and North. Several large rivers, including the Saskatchewan, the Nelson and the Churchill, drain into Hudson Bay. The Saskatchewan River flows across the prairies and drains one of Canada's great farming regions.

There are three major rivers in the Pacific region—the Fraser, Columbia and Yukon. They rise in the mountains and flow swiftly over falls and rapids before reaching the Pacific Ocean. The Fraser River is entirely within the borders of Canada but the greater part of the Columbia and Yukon Rivers is in the United States.

The longest river in Canada is the Mackenzie which flows into the Arctic Ocean at the extreme northwest corner of the country.

Great Lakes. The Great Lakes are the largest chain of inland fresh water lakes in the world. They lie along the border between Canada and the United States, except for Lake Michigan which

The St. Lawrence Seaway allows large ships to reach the heart of the continent



is entirely within the United States. The lakes are drained into the Atlantic Ocean by the St. Lawrence River.

Lake Ontario is the smallest of the Great Lakes. It is joined to Lake Erie by the Niagara River. Niagara Falls, which lies in this river, is of course a barrier to shipping. It has therefore been necessary to build the Welland canal. Lake Erie has a reputation among seamen for bad storms owing to its shallow waters.

Lake Huron is the second largest of the Great Lakes. Lake Superior is the largest of the Great Lakes and also the largest inland fresh water lake in the world. It is also very deep. Much of the wheat from western Canada is shipped through the ports of Fort William and Port Arthur on this lake.

Other Lakes. Other large lakes are Lake Winnipeg, Great Slave Lake and Great Bear Lake, all in the central and north central region of Canada. Apart from these, notable for size, there are innumerable lakes of various sizes scattered over many parts of the country, particularly the large portion lying within the Canadian Shield.

#### Political Divisions

There are twelve political divisions in Canada—ten provinces, the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories.

The provinces with their capitals are as follows:

**Province** Capital Newfoundland St. John's Halifax Nova Scotia New Brunswick Fredericton Prince Edward Island Charlottetown Quebec Quebec Ontario Toronto Winnipeg Manitoba Regina Saskatchewan Edmonton Alberta British Columbia Victoria

The capital of the Yukon Territory is Whitehorse. Ottawa is the seat of government of the Northwest Territories and the largest town is Yellowknife.

Ottawa, the capital of Canada, is situated in the province of Ontario on the Ottawa River which flows between the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

#### Climate

There is nothing static or monotonous about the weather in Canada. It varies from one part of the country to another and even within one small area there may be an extreme change of temperature in a matter of hours. Throughout many parts of Canada there are sharp contrasts between the seasons. Winter is generally very cold and summer may vary from warm to extremely hot. Fall or autumn is a distinct season with many days of warm sunshine. Spring is usually very short and merges quickly into summer.

In an enormous area of the north the winters are extremely cold. Summers are short and generally cool.

On the Pacific coast the climate is moderate and there is a good deal of rain. Very little snow falls in the coastal area. Moving eastward into the prairies we come into a dry climate where it may be extremely cold in winter and very hot in summer.

In southern Ontario and Quebec the summer season is one of the longest in the country. Winters are often very cold and there may be a heavy snowfall.

Winters may also be severe in the Atlantic region. Spring and early summer are usually cool in this part of the country and foggy days are frequent along the coast.

#### Time Zones

Of the twenty-four time zones that cover the world, Canada has seven. These seven zones are Newfoundland, Atlantic, Eastern, Central, Mountain, Pacific and Yukon. The most easterly zone is Newfoundland time which is three and a half hours behind Greenwich time, the basis of world time. When it is 5.30 p.m. in the Newfoundland zone it is 12 o'clock noon in the Yukon zone.

The areas covered by the time zones in Canada are as follows:

Newfoundland time—Newfoundland, including Labrador Atlantic time—Atlantic provinces and parts of Quebec Eastern time—remainder of Quebec and most of Ontario Central time—remainder of Ontario, Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan

Mountain time—remainder of Saskatchewan and Alberta Pacific time—British Columbia Yukon time—Yukon Territory.

The Northwest Territories extend over five time zones.

## How Canada is Linked Together

From the very beginning Canada had to face the problem of how to link together the various parts of the country. This



Vast distances in Canada are overcome by fast jet aircraft

was not an easy task in a country the size of Canada, with its mountains, its difficult climate and its small population. But Canadians accepted the challenge of their vast country and built transportation and communication systems which are among the finest in the world. They cover an enormous area and maintain very high standards of service.

First came the canals. Then the transcontinental railways were built at great cost and involving an immense amount of work. Later came the airlines and finally the Trans-Canada Highway, making it possible to travel by car across the entire country. Other means of communication are the great networks of telephone, telegraph, and radio and television services.

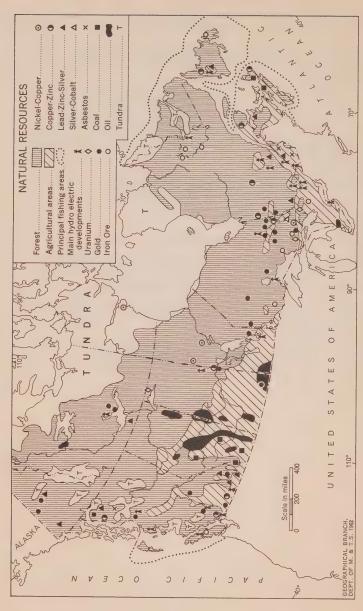
In many of these large national enterprises, public and private ownership exist side by side. The railways are one example. The largest railway systems in Canada are the government-owned Canadian National Railways and the privately-owned Canadian Pacific Railway. These railways, two of the largest in the world, compete with each other but co-operate in many fields in order to avoid duplication of service.

Another example is air transportation. The two main airlines are the government-owned Air Canada and Canadian Pacific Air Lines, a private company. The same story is true of radio and television broadcasting\* where public and private stations co-operate to provide a national program service.

<sup>\*</sup>See p. 24.

# Questions

- 1. How many oceans touch the shores of Canada? Can you name them?
- 2. What lies to the south of Canada?
- 3. Name four of the geographical regions in Canada.
- 4. Name the four Great Lakes that lie between Canada and the United States.
- 5. Name two of the most important rivers—
  - (a) in eastern Canada
  - (b) in western Canada.
- 6. What is the St. Lawrence Seaway?
- 7. Name the capital of the province in which you live.
- 8. What is the capital of Canada and where is it located?
- 9. There are seven time zones in Canada. Can you name four of them?
- 10. Name one transcontinental railway in Canada.



Simplified map of the main natural resources of Canada

## Resources and Industries

Canada is fortunate in having natural resources of great richness and variety. From its rocks come an unending flow of rich minerals. Vast farmlands yield abundant crops and mile upon mile of forests supply raw material for great lumber and pulp and paper industries. Seas and lakes teem with fish and enormous sources of power are available to drive the wheels of industry.

The industrial development of Canada since Confederation in 1867 has been remarkable. The opening of the Canadian West and the two World Wars are among the historical events which have resulted in great industrial expansion. In the past generation alone Canada has changed from a country producing and exporting mainly wheat, lumber and other primary goods to one that is increasingly producing and exporting manufactured goods. Canada has thus become to a large extent an industrial and urban society.

## **Minerals**

Metals. Most metals are found in that vast rocky area around Hudson and James Bays that is known as the Canadian Shield. Nickel, copper, uranium, iron ore, gold, zinc, lead and silver are the leading metallic minerals produced in Canada.

Canada has long been the leading world producer of nickel. By far the largest proportion comes from mines in the Sudbury area of Ontario. The second largest source of nickel is a new mine at Thompson, Manitoba.

Copper is produced in large quantities in Ontario and Quebec and in lesser quantities in several other provinces.

Canadian reserves of uranium are the largest in the world and Ontario's output is the largest in the country. Saskatchewan is also a leading producer of uranium and there are deposits in the Northwest Territories.

Rich deposits of iron ore are found in Quebec, Newfoundland and Ontario. The largest quantities of iron ore in Canada are produced in a district partly in northern Quebec and partly in the Labrador area of Newfoundland.

Ontario is the main producer of gold. Quebec and the Northwest Territories also produce important quantities and smaller amounts are mined in several other parts of the country.

British Columbia accounts for about half the Canadian production of zinc. Other large producers are Quebec, Saskatchewan and Ontario. More than three quarters of Canada's total production of lead comes from British Columbia. Large quantities of lead are also found in the Yukon Territory and in Newfoundland.

Production of silver is fairly widespread across Canada. The largest producers are Ontario, British Columbia and the Territories.

Non-Metallic Minerals. Among non-metallic minerals produced in Canada, asbestos is by far the most important. Canada supplies about one half the world's total requirements of asbestos. Most of it comes from Quebec, but there are also deposits in Ontario and British Columbia.

Fuels. Canada is very rich in resources of oil and natural gas. Alberta leads the country in the production of these two fuels. The first discovery of oil in that province was at Leduc, south of Edmonton, in 1947. Since then, many important discoveries have been made in that area and in other parts of the province. Oil pipelines transport crude oil from Edmonton to eastern Canada and westward to the Pacific. Saskatchewan contributes an increasing amount to the total oil production in Canada.



Natural gas plant in Alberta

Alberta produces about three quarters of the total supply of natural gas in Canada. Natural gas pipelines extend into eastern Canada, the Pacific Coast and the United States. Apart from Alberta, natural gas comes chiefly from British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Coal is mined in five provinces—Nova Scotia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and British Columbia. Nova Scotia leads the country in coal production.

## Farming

There are four main agricultural regions in Canada—the Atlantic, Central, Prairie and West coast.

Atlantic Region. Within the Atlantic region itself there are differences in the type of farming that is carried on. In Newfoundland very little land is suitable for farming. Prince Edward

Island, on the other hand, is largely dependent on agriculture. Excellent crops, including dairy products, hogs, eggs and potatoes, are grown in all parts of the Island. Mixed farming is carried on successfully in many parts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Some of the largest poultry farms in Canada are found in the Annapolis valley of Nova Scotia. This valley is also noted for its excellent apples and other small fruits.

Central Region. The Central region, which consists of the southern parts of Ontario and Quebec, is very rich and highly developed. Many farmers are engaged in dairy farming or the raising of beef cattle. The main crops include mixed grain, vegetables and fruit. One of the most important fruit-growing areas of Canada is the Niagara peninsula. In addition to these more general crops, most of Canada's tobacco is grown in Ontario and the remainder in Quebec.

Prairie Region. The Prairie region, which includes the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, is one of the great graingrowing areas of the world. Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, is among the world's most important grain markets. Wheat is the most important crop, particularly in Saskatchewan. Other crops include oats, barley, rye and flax. In recent years an increasing number of farmers have turned to the raising of livestock. There are many cattle ranches, especially in Alberta.

West Coast. On the West coast the numerous river valleys of British Columbia are excellent for farming. In the fertile valley of the lower Fraser River general mixed farming and dairying flourish. The Okanagan valley is famous for its fruit, particularly apples. The high central region of the province is a great cattle-raising area. Far to the north, in the Peace River area, graingrowing and mixed farming are carried on successfully. On Vancouver Island with its mild climate, fruits, vegetables, flowering bulbs and seeds are grown.



Dairy farming is carried on extensively in many parts of Canada

## Fisheries

The waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and thousands of inland rivers and lakes provide a rich harvest of fish. Only about one-third of this catch is used in Canada. The remainder is sent abroad in fresh, frozen, canned, salted, dried or some other form.

Atlantic Fisheries. The Atlantic catch is generally about twice as large as the Pacific and is usually more valuable. Cod and lobster are the mainstay of the Atlantic fisheries, while herring and mackerel supply a pickling industry that is also of considerable importance. The Grand Banks off the coast of Newfoundland have been famous for centuries as a fishing ground for cod. Lobster is the main source of income for fishermen in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick and is important too in Nova Scotia. Frozen



Fishing is an important industry on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts

fillets of fish are the most important products of the fish processing industry on the Atlantic coast.

Pacific Fisheries. Salmon is the most valuable of the Pacific fisheries although the herring catch is larger. Halibut is third in importance. About three quarters of the annual salmon catch is canned and the remainder goes to the fresh market.

Inland Fisheries. Whitefish and pickerel together comprise about half the Canadian fresh water catch. Perch and lake trout are also important. The main part of the catch comes from the Great Lakes, Lake Winnipeg in Manitoba and Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories.

## Forestry

Canada's forests cover almost half the total land area of the country. They extend in a wide are across Canada from the

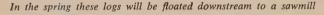
Atlantic to the Pacific. Some of the largest trees in the world are found in British Columbia which is a very heavily forested region. The forest resources of Quebec and Ontario are also very large.

Forest industries include:

- (1) the manufacture of primary products, such as logs, poles, pulpwood and fuelwood
- (2) the lumber industry
- (3) the pulp and paper industry
- (4) other industries using wood and paper such as the furniture and paper box industries.

The lumber industry is an important part of the forest industry. Sawmills in Canada vary greatly in size. Some, particularly in British Columbia, are capable of cutting very large amounts of lumber in a single operation. More than half the sawn lumber produced in Canada comes from that province.

The manufacture of pulp and paper has been Canada's leading industry for many years. Canada is one of the world's greatest pulp exporters and it provides nearly one half of the world's





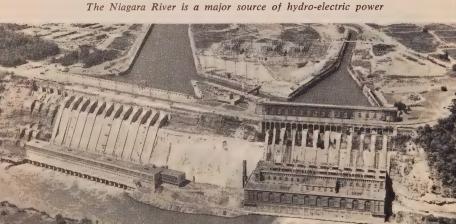
newsprint needs. Quebec and Ontario together account for almost three quarters of the newsprint production in Canada.

#### Electric Power

Canada ranks fourth among the nations of the world in the production of electric power. By far the chief source of this power are the many fast-flowing rivers which are found in almost every part of the country. However in some areas there is an increasing tendency to develop thermal-electric power. Thermal-electric power is based on such sources of energy as coal, oil or natural gas, while hydro-electric power is based on water. Important progress is also being carried out in the development of power from nuclear sources.

Atlantic Provinces. Of the Atlantic provinces, only Newfoundland obtains its main source of electric energy from water power. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island depend chiefly on thermalelectric power while New Brunswick's needs are met partly by water power and partly by thermal-electric power.

Ouebec and Ontario. Quebec produces more hydro-electric power than any other province in Canada. Ontario ranks second



in the development of hydro-electric power and third in total available water power resources. Several thermal-electric units have also been established in Ontario. The supply of cheap power in both Quebec and Ontario is one of the main reasons why the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes area is the most highly developed industrial region of the country.

Prairie Provinces. Of the three prairie provinces, Manitoba has the most abundant water power resources. In contrast, Alberta and Saskatchewan have relied to a great extent upon thermal-electric power.

British Columbia and the Territories. British Columbia has a wealth of water power resources in its many mountain rivers. The province ranks second in available resources and is exceeded only by Quebec and Ontario in power developed.

Important water power resources in the Yukon Territory are located on the Yukon River and its tributaries. In the Northwest Territories more than half the resources are located on rivers flowing into Great Slave Lake.

## Manufacturing Industries

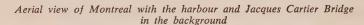
About as many Canadians are employed in manufacturing as in the combined industries of farming, forestry, fishing, mining and construction. Ontario and Quebec are by far the most important manufacturing provinces of Canada. This is because of their water power and other resources, their large populations concentrated in the southern part of the provinces and their nearness to the markets of the United States.

Ontario and Quebec Lead. Ontario has greater variety in its manufacturing production than any other province. Motor vehicles, motor vehicle parts, iron and steel, heavy electrical machinery, agricultural implements and rubber goods are among its main products but there are a great many others. Toronto, the capital

of the province, with a population of nearly two million, is a great industrial and commercial centre. Hamilton is associated with steel production, and Windsor is the centre of the automobile industry in Canada.

In Quebec the most important single industry is pulp and paper. Other leading industries include oil products, aluminum production, textiles, clothing, electrical apparatus and tobacco products. Montreal, the largest city in Canada with a population of more than two million, is one of the leading manufacturing cities of the country. It is also a very busy seaport and an important railway and air centre. Several important industries are also located in Quebec City, the capital of the province.

British Columbia. While British Columbia ranks third among the provinces in general manufacturing, it is first in the production







Manufacturing industries employ large numbers of Canadians

of wood products. Other leading industries include oil products, fish-packing, slaughtering and meat-packing, and aluminum production. Vancouver, the largest city of the province, is the main centre of commerce and industry.

Prairie Provinces. In the Prairie provinces the leading industry is slaughtering and meat-packing, followed closely by oil products. Chemicals based on the oil industry are manufactured to an increasing extent in Alberta. Edmonton, the centre of the oil industry, has numerous factories manufacturing chemicals and other products. Calgary is also important as an industrial centre.

Manitoba is the oldest manufacturing centre of the Prairie provinces. Iron and steel, and mineral and oil products are now becoming more important than the production of food and clothing. Winnipeg, however, is still a main centre of the clothing industry in western Canada.

The manufacture of food products is important in Saskatchewan but oil products are gaining ground. Regina is the main commercial and industrial centre of a rich farming region.

Atlantic Provinces. The leading industries of the Atlantic provinces are pulp and paper, fish-packing, oil products, iron and steel, and lumber. In Newfoundland some of the largest pulp and paper mills in the world are located at Corner Brook. St. John's is an important seaport and industrial centre.

In Prince Edward Island, butter and cheese, slaughtering and meat-packing, and fish-packing are the main industries. A number of manufacturing plants are located at Charlottetown.

The iron and steel industry is important in Nova Scotia. One of the country's largest steel plants is at Sydney. Other leading industries are fish-packing, pulp and paper, shipbuilding and lumber. Halifax, one of the most important seaports in North America, is the centre of a number of industries.

The forests of New Brunswick give it a leading place in the pulp and paper and lumber industries. Saint John, like Halifax an ice-free port, is one of the chief manufacturing cities east of Montreal.

### Trade with Other Countries

Canada is the fifth trading nation in the world. More goods are produced in Canada than the people can use. Therefore, what is not needed at home is exported to other countries. Some of the leading Canadian exports are newsprint, wheat, lumber, pulpwood and minerals.

In turn, Canada imports the goods which it needs from other countries. Its main trading partners are the United States and the Commonwealth. But trade is carried on with a great many other countries as well.

Foreign trade is very important to the welfare and prosperity of Canadians. That is why one of the major problems of Canada has always been to find markets abroad for Canadian products.

# Questions

- 1. What are four of the main metals found in Canada?
- 2. Name one province noted for producing each of the metals mentioned.
- 3. Which province is the most important in the production of (a) asbestos?
  - (b) oil?
- 4. One of the most important grain markets in the world is in a Canadian city. Can you name it?



Canadian newsprint is shipped all over the world

- 5. Name two provinces that are noted for fruit growing.
- 6. What province is particularly noted for its lumber industry?
- 7. Which two provinces in Canada lead in the production of newsprint?
- 8. Name two provinces that are noted for fish.
- 9. Which two provinces lead in the development of hydro-electric power?
- 10. Name three important manufacturing cities in Canada.
- 11. Name one province in which the following manufactured goods are produced:
  - (a) automobiles
  - (b) textiles
  - (c) steel products.
- 12. What is the leading seaport
  - (a) on the east coast?
  - (b) on the west coast?
- 13. Name three important Canadian exports.
- 14. Which are Canada's two main trading partners?

# How Canada is Governed

Canada is a democracy. This means that the government represents the people and is responsible to the people for carrying on public business.

Democracy is more than a method of government. It implies a number of important beliefs and traditions which are always part of a true democracy. One of these beliefs is that open discussion by a well-informed public will result in the best policies for the country. Another belief is that the best political system is one in which as many people as possible have a share in making decisions and taking responsibility. Freedom of choice in political and other matters, and the value of the individual are also basic to democracy.

# Rule of the Majority

The principle of accepting the decision of the largest number, or the majority, is regarded as the best means of deciding any question. While the minority must be prepared to accept the decisions of the majority, the minority also have certain rights, which the majority must respect.

The minority, for example, are free to try and persuade other people to their point of view. All groups have a right to grow by winning supporters wherever they can find them. A minority today may, as a result, become a majority tomorrow. This system of the rule of the majority is followed closely throughout Canada—in public meetings and organizations of all kinds as well as in the government itself.

# Representative and Responsible Government

Another characteristic of Canadian government is that it is representative government. It would be impossible for every person living in Canada to take an active part in the daily conduct of public affairs. Instead, the system has developed of choosing persons at an election to represent all the people in Canada and to carry on public business on their behalf. The Canadian House of Commons, the provincial legislatures and the municipal councils are all composed of such representatives elected by the people to act in their name.

Canadian government is not only representative, it is also responsible government. The distinguishing feature of responsible government is that the Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet\* must be elected to the House of Commons where they must account for their official acts. They are expected to resign if they cannot retain the support and confidence of a majority of the members of the House.

# Federal System

Another feature of Canadian government is that it is a federation. As stated in a previous section, the British North America Act provided for a federal form of government, with a national government to deal with all public business affecting the country as a whole, and provincial governments, one in each province, to deal with matters of interest to the provinces themselves. In addition to the provinces there are two territorial governments—one for the Yukon Territory and the other for the Northwest Territories.

Within the provinces and territories there are of course municipalities, each with its own local government.

In Canada, then, there are three levels of government—federal, provincial and municipal. In the remainder of this section we shall look briefly at each of these levels.

<sup>\*</sup>See p. 66.

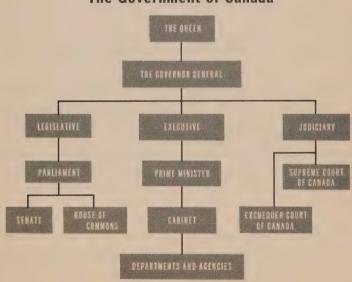
#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The federal government consists of three parts—the executive branch, the legislative branch and the judicial branch. The judicial branch or system of courts, which also includes provincial courts, will be described at the end of the chapter.

#### Executive Branch

The executive branch is composed of Her Majesty the Queen, who is represented in Canada by the Governor General; the Prime Minister, who is the chief adviser to the Governor General and through him to the Queen; and the Cabinet.

Her Majesty the Queen. The Queen is the Queen of Canada and head of state. However, she does not live in this country.



The Government of Canada

She lives in the United Kingdom and is represented in Canada by the Governor General.

Governor General. The Governor General is the personal representative in Canada of Her Majesty the Queen and acts on her behalf. He is appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Canadian government for a term of office which is generally five years. Among his duties, the Governor General must give assent to all legislation passed by the Senate and the House of Commons before it can become law. In practice Royal Assent to such legislation is always given.

In Canada there is a division between the political and ceremonial functions of state. The Prime Minister is the political leader whereas the Governor General, as the Queen's representative and ceremonial head of state, does not take part in political life and controversy.

Prime Minister. Canadians do not vote for a Prime Minister. The Prime Minister is normally the leader of the political party which has the support of the largest number of members elected to the House of Commons. Having been elected as an ordinary Member, he becomes Prime Minister by virtue of his party leadership.

Cabinet. The Prime Minister normally selects the Ministers from among the Members of the House of Commons to share with him the work of government and to direct the various departments. This group is known as the Cabinet. It is responsible for presenting to Parliament at each session the program of legislation. Government measures, or bills, are normally introduced in the House by a Cabinet Minister or other member of the government.

## Legislative Branch

The legislative branch consists of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Commons.



Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa where the Senate Chamber and House of Commons are situated

Senate. The Senate is the senior legislative body in Canada. It consists of 102 Senators who are appointed by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The selection of Senators takes into consideration the need to have various regions and groups represented.

The duties of the Senate include the consideration of all legislation passed by the House of Commons. If the Senate gives its approval to a bill, it is then sent to the Governor General for his signature, after which it becomes law. If the Senate does not give its approval of the bill, it is either rejected or sent back to the House of Commons with suggestions for changes and for further discussion.

At the same time, the Senate may introduce legislation which is considered to be for the good of the country. Senators are not permitted, however, to present bills that would impose any tax on the people or use public funds. Such bills must be introduced in the House of Commons.

House of Commons. The House of Commons consists of 265 Members of Parliament who are elected by the people from the various ridings into which the country is divided. Members of Parliament discuss policies and make laws on behalf of all the people. They are elected for a maximum of five years.

Normally the political party having the largest number of Members elected to the House of Commons is referred to as the Government party and its leader is invited by the Governor General to become the Prime Minister. Members elected to the House of Commons from other political parties are known as the Opposition. The "Leader of the Opposition" is usually the leader of the

House of Commons in session



of the proposed expenditure and the council will be guided by the decision of the majority of the voters.

Powers of Municipal Council. All municipalities have powers to make laws that are given to them by the provincial government. These laws are known as by-laws. A municipal council may make by-laws on all matters having to do with peace, safety and good government in the municipality. These include such things as public order, police, fire protection, local transportation and traffic control, streets and sidewalks, health, welfare and recreation, water and sewage, garbage collection, housing standards and community planning.

Appointed Municipal Officers. The elected members of a municipal council are generally persons who are not in a position to



Yellowknife municipal council in session

give all their time to municipal business. So the council appoints a number of officials including a municipal clerk, municipal treasurer, assessors, and municipal auditors.

Also included among the appointed officials are firemen, policemen, tax collectors, sanitary and building inspectors, welfare officers, engineers and others.

#### School Boards

The members of school boards are elected by the people in the same way as members of municipal councils. School boards, however, are independent of municipal councils. They are the local business administrators of the educational policies of provincial governments. Their responsibilities include the maintenance of school property, equipment, school supplies, the appointment of teachers and the fixing of salaries.

#### Elections

As noted above, municipal elections take place every one, two or three years, depending on the municipality. The day on which the voting takes place is normally fixed by law and usually falls in November or December.

In most municipalities a person must be a Canadian citizen or other British subject in order to vote at a municipal election. The age qualification is 21 years in municipalities in all provinces except Saskatchewan where it is 18. In a great many municipalities ownership of property is a necessary qualification for voting.

## JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

An important feature of Canadian democracy is the rule or supremacy of law. This means that the government itself is controlled by the law and must act according to its terms. A prime minister, a civil servant or a policeman is subject to the law of the land in the same way as every other citizen.

Judges in Canada are free from political control. They are appointed and paid by the government. Once a judge has been appointed, he carries out his duties without interference or instructions from any source.

A system of courts has been established throughout the country. These range from the magistrate's courts in the villages and towns to the Supreme Court of Canada, the court of final appeal. If a person feels that he has suffered an injury or injustice at the hands of any individual, group or body, even of the government itself, he has the right to take the matter before the courts. If he feels that the decision of the court is wrong, he has the right of appeal to a higher court.

The rights of the individual are carefully guarded in all cases appearing before the Canadian courts. In particular, it should be noted that in Canada a person accused of committing a crime is considered innocent until he is proven guilty.

The task of enforcing the law and preventing crime rests on the police forces of the country. These include the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, provincial police in Ontario and Quebec, and municipal police. There is no secret police in Canada. In this

Police officers are public servants and may be called upon for assistance at any time



country the police forces play no political role. Their main purpose is to safeguard the lives and property of the people. Police officers are public servants and as such are ready at all times to come to the immediate help of anyone in trouble.

#### HOW GOVERNMENT IS FINANCED

In order to carry on public business the government needs large amounts of money. Where does this money come from? Most of it comes from the Canadian people themselves in the form of taxes. The money that is collected by the government is spent on behalf of the people to provide public services. One of the responsibilities of a citizen is to pay his share of taxes so that he may contribute to the welfare of everyone in the country.

The federal government obtains the largest part of its money from income tax. Everyone earning an income above a certain amount is required to pay this tax.

Provincial governments obtain the money necessary for provincial purposes mainly by a wide variety of taxes and by payments from the federal government. Some of the taxes are those on alcoholic beverages, retail sales, amusements and gasoline.

The largest source of funds for municipalities and school boards is the tax on property (land and buildings) and provincial grants.

# Questions

- 1. The Parliament of Canada is made up of three parts. Can you name them?
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- 9. What is the capital of Canada?
- 10. What is meant by saying Canada has a federal system of government?
- 11. Who represents the Queen in each province?
- 12. Who is your member in the provincial legislative assembly.
- 13. In your province, who may vote at a provincial election?
- 14. How many members are there in the legislative assembly of your province?
- 15. Who is the Premier of your province?
- 16. What is the capital city of your province?
- 17. (a) Name two matters that are under the control of the federal government? and
  - (b) Two that are under provincial control?
- 18. (a) How is the money raised to pay for services of the federal government?
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- 19. What is meant by the supremacy of the law in Canada?
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- 21. The municipal council is responsible for a number of services to the people of your community.
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- 23. Name one way in which a municipal council obtains money with which to carry on public business.
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# Rights and Responsibilities of a Citizen

The people of Canada have a number of rights and freedoms that are usually found in a democracy. These rights and freedoms have existed for many years and have been handed down from generation to generation. Many of them were not in written form until recently. But they were recognized in the Common Law and were strengthened by decisions of the courts over the years.

# Rights and Freedoms

When the Canadian Bill of Rights was passed in August 1960, the "human rights and fundamental freedoms" to which everyone is entitled under the laws of Canada, were listed as follows:

- "(a) the right of the individual to life, liberty, security of the person and enjoyment of property, and the right not to be deprived thereof except by due process of law;
  - (b) the right of the individual to equality before the law and the protection of the law;
  - (c) freedom of religion;
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The Bill states that these rights and freedoms exist for everyone "without discrimination by reason of race, national origin, colour, religion or sex." Right to a Fair Trial. Another important aspect of human rights in a democracy is the procedure by which laws may be enforced. In Canada no one can be held or imprisoned without adequate cause. Anyone who is arrested or detained has the right to be informed promptly of the reason for his arrest or detention, and to obtain legal advice without delay. If the case comes before the court, the accused has the right to a fair hearing.

A person charged with a criminal offence has the right "to be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law in a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal."

Anyone who is brought to trial and who does not speak the language used in the court has the right to have an interpreter.

Freedom of Movement. Every person in Canada has the right to move freely about the country. He may go from one place to another as often as he wishes and whenever he wishes without having to report to any authority. He may work and live in any part of Canada. Unless he is involved in some disturbance of the public peace, he will not be asked to account for his movements or activities.

Consideration for Rights of Others. In the above paragraphs some of the rights of the individual in Canada have been mentioned. The individual, on his part, however, is expected to be moderate in exercising his rights. No freedom is complete. Freedom of speech, for example, is only permitted within reasonable limitations. It does not include slander or treason which are forbidden by other laws. Consideration for the rights of others is the mark of a good citizen.

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There is general agreement that one duty of every person in Canada is to obey the laws. But it may also be the duty of a citizen to try to get a law changed or repealed, or a new one enacted, if he thinks it is in the best interests of the people to do so. He may write letters to newspapers or work through organizations in order to influence public opinion. It is on public opinion that government policy and legislation in a democracy are based.

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Each individual, however, must decide for himself the extent of his community participation and how he can best carry out his responsibilities as a citizen. It may be that by concentrating on his daily work he can best serve the good of the people and the welfare of the nation. This may be true of the mother of a family, the scientist or artist, for example.

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Through participation in voluntary organizations many Canadians play an active role in community affairs

state." We, the people, are responsible for our own country, our government and way of life.

The responsibilities of citizenship are therefore many. They present a challenge that appeals to everyone who believes in the democratic way of life.

# Questions

- 1. Name four of the rights and freedoms that are set forth in the Canadian Bill of Rights.
- 2. What are two of the safeguards that protect an individual in Canada who is charged with a crime?
- 3. It is said that Canadians enjoy freedom of movement. What does this mean?

- 4. What are two of the main duties of a citizen?
- 5. Suggest some other ways in which a citizen can serve the community or nation.
- 6. "Good citizenship in a democracy is based on a sense of responsibility." Give an example to illustrate what this means.

# Appendices

## FOR THE CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

# Oath of Allegiance

I, ....., swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her Heirs and Successors, according to law, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada and fulfil my duties as a Canadian citizen.

So help me God.

### O Canada

O Canada! Our Home and Native Land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command,
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise,
The True North, strong and free,
And stand on guard, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, glorious and free!
We stand on guard, we stand on guard for thee!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!

## God Save the Queen

God save our gracious Queen, Long live our noble Queen, God save the Queen: Send Her victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us: God save the Queen.

#### STEPS TO CITIZENSHIP

An applicant for citizenship must have had his place of domicile in Canada for at least five years after being legally admitted to Canada as a "landed" immigrant.\* The last year prior to application must have been one of continuous residence in Canada. A person may, however, file his application three months in advance of the completion of his five years of residence.

The applicant for citizenship must be at least 21 years of age unless he is the spouse of, and resides in Canada with, a Canadian citizen.

The application is filed with the Clerk of the Court in the county or district in which the person lives. Special citizenship courts are found in some of the larger cities. If an applicant lives more than fifty miles from a Court, he may apply by mail to the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, Ottawa.

Three months then pass, during which time the application is posted in the office of the court. This is to allow anyone who may wish to do so to file an objection to the granting of citizenship to the applicant.

# Examination by the Court

The Clerk of the Court notifies the applicant concerning the date and time when he is to appear before the Court for examination. In most instances the Judge or the President of the Court conducts this examination in his chambers or office, although it may be done in open court.

The applicant must satisfy the Judge or President of the Court that he has complied with all the requirements of the Act; that he is of good character; that he has an adequate knowledge of the

<sup>\*</sup> Exceptions are made for a person who has served outside of Canada in the armed forces, the alien wife of a Canadian citizen, or for someone who had a place of domicile in Canada for twenty years immediately preceding January 1, 1947.

responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship; and that he intends to comply with the Oath of Allegiance and to remain permanently in Canada.

# Decision of the Judge

After the examination, the decision of the Judge or President of the Court, concerning the fitness of the applicant for Canadian citizenship, is forwarded to the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. If the decision is favourable, and a certificate of Canadian citizenship is granted by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, it is forwarded to the Clerk of the Court. The applicant is then informed of the date and time of his appearance before the Court to take his Oath of Allegiance and receive his certificate.

If the Judge considers the applicant does not meet the requirements of the Act owing to inadequate knowledge of the language or for a similar reason, he may postpone the examination and suggest a further period of study. In this case the applicant may reappear for examination at the time agreed upon. But if an applicant is rejected he may make another application two years after the date of the rejection. The same procedure is then followed as in the original application.

British subjects must meet the same requirements for citizenship as aliens, but ordinarily they do not have to appear for examination before a court.

#### Children of Naturalized Canadians

It is possible for the children of naturalized Canadian citizens to become citizens before they reach the age of 21. Application may be made on behalf of a minor child by the responsible parent, the guardian of the child, or the mother if she has the custody of her child. The child must have been legally admitted to Canada for permanent residence. If he is 14 years of age or more, he

must have a knowledge of the English or French language and must take the Oath of Allegiance.

The above outline is not intended as a legal interpretation of the Citizenship Act. All specific inquiries on the citizenship procedure or on the meaning of the Act should be made to the Clerk of the appropriate Court or the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, Ottawa.

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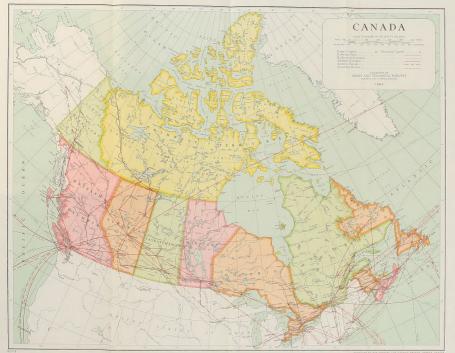
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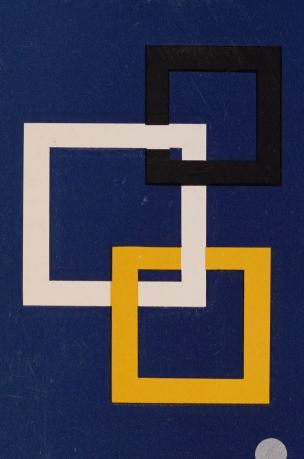
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